

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-8 are pending, and are rejected.

Claims 1 and 5-8 are amended.

Claim Objections

Responsive to the objection, applicants have amended claim 8 to claim an Internet phone of amended claim 5.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b)

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1-8 as being anticipated by WO 97/29581 ("Wilkes"), applicants have amended claims 1 and 5-8 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as the invention. Applicants submit that amended claims 1 and 5, and their respective dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8 are patentable over Wilkes as discussed below.

In particular, applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify that the recited steps are processed by an Internet telephone having an Internet interface and a wireless device. The support for this feature can be found, for example, on page 5, line 33-page 6, line 4, FIGs. 1-3, and the Title. Specifically, amended claim 1 recites a method for processing a voice call over an Internet by an Internet telephone having an Internet interface device and a wireless device, the method comprising the steps of: receiving, by the Internet interface device, a signal from a network, the signal representing Internet protocol data packets of the voice call and being both modulated in a first format and compressed to match a format of the network; demodulating, by the Internet interface device, the signal modulated in the first format; decompressing, by the Internet interface device, the demodulated signal; compressing, by the Internet interface device,

the decompressed signal into a format of a home environment; modulating, by the Internet interface device, the compressed signal into a second format; wirelessly transmitting, by the Internet interface device, the signal modulated in the second format to the wireless device; and demodulating and decompressing the signal modulated in the second format in the wireless device. This Internet phone can be used in a home environment with existing Internet networks. See page 4, lines 13-26.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is patentable over Wilkes because Wilkes does not disclose or suggest a method for processing a voice call over an Internet by an Internet phone performing any of the recited steps. .

Wilkes discloses a voice Internet transmission system including VoiceEngines 32 and 34. See FIG. 2. In operation, a typical telephone 30 first calls a VoiceEngine, for example the Voice Engine 32, through a PSTN or other telephone networks. See page 12, lines 11 and 18-22. The VoiceEngine 32 answers the call and receives the telephone number of the receiving telephone 38 from the originating telephone 30. See page 12, line 35-page 13, line 3. The VoiceEngine 32 then contacts and passes the telephone number to the receiving VoiceEngine 34 near the receiving telephone 38 through the Internet. See page 13, lines 7-10, 22-26, and FIG. 2. The receiving VoiceEngine 34 then calls the receiving telephone 38 through a telephone network. See page 13, lines 26-29. A VoiceEngine digitizes received analog voice signals, compresses the digitalized signals, and sends the digitized signals to a receiving VoiceEngine, which decompresses the digitalized signals and converts the digitized signals to analog before forwarding the signals to a typical telephone connected to the receiving VoiceEngine. See page 15, line 24-page 16, line 4. Nowhere does Wilkes disclose or suggest an Internet phone for used in a home environment. The telephones

30 and 38 are a typical telephone, not an Internet telephone as recited in amended claim 1. The VoiceEngines are a part of the networks, not a part of an Internet phone.

Furthermore, Wilkes does not suggest the steps recited in amended claim 1 because Wilkes is concerned with a totally different problem. As discussed above, the claimed invention is concerned with providing a home environment for Internet phone calls without having to modify the Internet network. By contrast, Wilkes is concerned with providing a network environment so that a regular phone in a home environment can still use the Internet to bypass long distance telephone networks. See, for example, page 5, lines 4-12 of Wilkes.

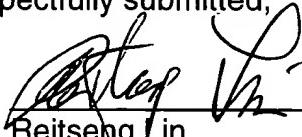
In light of the fact that Wilkes does not disclose or suggest an Internet telephone in a home environment as recited in claim 1, applicants submit that amended claim 1, and its dependent claims 2-4, are patentable over Wilkes.

Responsive to the rejection to claim 5, applicants have amended claim 5, and dependent claims 6-8, to recite an Internet telephone for processing a voice call over an Internet. Applicants submit that the arguments made above with respect to claim 1 are also applicable to amended claim 5, and submit that amended claim 5, and its dependent claims 6-8, are patentable over Wilkes.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the fee to
Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Reitsehng Lin
Reg. No. 42,804
Phone (609) 734-6813

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
January 30, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

1-30-04
Date

Karen Schlauch
Karen Schlauch